

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

REPORT NO. 

COUNTRY East Germany

TOPIC Information on the KVP Unit in Oranienburg

EVALUATION	see below	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1A	25X1A
DATE OF CONTENT		25X1A	OCT 6	1953
DATE OBTAINED		E PREPARED	10 June 1953	
REFERENCES				
PAGES	3	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS				

SOURCE 

25X1X

25X1X 

25X1B

25X1B 1. From 3 through 9 April 1953, source almost daily observed  each of them loaded with 25 or 30 VP personnel who wore red-bordered black epaulets proceeding from Oranienburg Castle to the target range near the Klinker Works. Source observed for the first time that the VPs wore epaulets with an A on them. In the noon hours of 7 April, ten BMW sedans entered the castle.

25X1B 

25X1X 2. In early April,  a skilled worker employed at Oranienburg Castle that work on the reconstruction of the front section of the installation was to be accelerated and that another 1,000 VPs were expected to be moved to the installation after its completion.

25X1X 3.  learned in early April, that Oranienburg was to become the 25X1B military post of the KVP unit.

25X1B 

4. From 10 through 16 April, source made the following observations at the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp:  
Buildings Nos 115, 117 and 120 housed 12 canvas covered trucks; building No 157 housed six such trucks.  
Buildings Nos 110, 111, 112 and 113 were locked at all times; they allegedly housed tanks.  
Buildings Nos 131 and 133 quartered personnel who wore claret and red-bordered black epaulets.  
Buildings Nos 121, 123 and 125 quartered personnel with blue and green epaulets. Two kitchens, one mess hall and one day room were established in building No 129. During the reported period, a small kitchen and a small mess hall also available in this building were still being used by Soviets. West of building No 129, the Soviets established a board fence 3 meters high running in a right angle to the camp street. Another board fence under construction extended from Bernauer Allee in north direction to building No 134, then west of the Promenade, to the camp street. Building No 144 was inside that fence, while buildings Nos 137 and 139 were outside the fence. Source believed that the commanding officer of the unit or another high-ranking officer was billeted in building No 136 because a sentry had been posted in front of this building since 11 April 1953.<sup>2</sup>

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25X1X 5. [REDACTED] several VPs of various branches of service that section No 3 of the Sachsenhausen Camp was to be vacated by the Soviets by 15 May for use by the VP.<sup>2</sup>

25X1X 6. On 13 April, about 50 young civilians arrived at the camp, were issued uniforms in building No 131 and then billeted in building No 123.

7. From 8 through 20 April, the eastern section of the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp still quartered an estimated 2,000 KVP personnel. While, prior to that date, about 90 percent of the KVP personnel wore blue uniforms, mostly olive drab uniforms were observed after mid-April. Red-bordered black, yellow-bordered black, rose-colored and blue epaulets were worn with the new uniforms. Training activity observed was light. The personnel spent most of their time preparing their quarters. A fuel dump consisting of fuel drums was established between buildings Nos 109 and 110.<sup>2</sup>

25X1B

8. [REDACTED]

9. No new KVP personnel was observed arriving at the former Sachsenhausen concentration camp during the period from 25 March through 22 April. Source learned from several KVP NCOs that a unit from Plauen and another unit from Meissen had allegedly been transferred to this installation. Source learned from a German employed at the camp that the installation quartered about 3,500 men.<sup>2</sup>

10. Activities observed near Oranienburg Castle during the period from 25 March through 22 April included:

26 March: At 8:30 a.m., four trucks carrying a total of 150 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets and towing four AA guns of a caliber of 80 to 100 mm left the castle for gun drill at the Blumeshof Estate near Nassenheide.

27 March: At 9 a.m., a detail of 120 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets left the installation for river crossing exercises on the Gross-Schiffahrtsweg Canal.

9 April: At 2 p.m., about 800 men carrying flags without any weapons marched to the concentration camp.

11 April: At 8 a.m., service of the piece drill was done on four model 39/85-mm AA guns between Hohenbruch and Neuendorf by about 120 men who wore red-bordered black epaulets.

14 April: At 8:30 p.m., three model BA 64 scout cars entered the castle.

15 April: At 6 p.m., three companies of about 140 very young soldiers each who wore red-bordered black epaulets were being drilled in the park of the castle.

17 April: At 6 p.m., about 150 men practiced river crossing with 6 to 8 pneumatic boats on Ruppiner Canal.

25X1X 11. [REDACTED] an engineer unit of about 160 men arrived at the installation from Greifswald on 23 or 24 March. [REDACTED] major combat practices were held by a total of about 900 men in Hofjagdrevier Forest northeast of Lenitz Schleuse on 28 March. [REDACTED] stated that about 500 officer candidates had been promoted to the rank of lieutenant on 4 April 1933 and then transferred to Prora, Torgelow and Greifswald after being sworn in. On 7 April, about 400 new officer candidates had arrived from Thuringia and Saxony, while on 17 April, an AAA company of 180 men without guns arrived at the installation from Erfurt.<sup>3</sup>

25X1X 12. [REDACTED] the KVP unit quartered in the castle was equipped with 24 trucks, 4 jeeps and 3 new BMW sedans. According to the same sergeant, six trucks loaded with ammunition for hand weapons arrived from Thuringia on 11 April. [REDACTED] Furthermore stated that 400 new uniforms and 50 blouses had been picked up at the VEB "ortschritt Plant in Berlin on 17 and 18

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April. Two hundred pairs of [redacted] shoes arrived from Czechoslovakia and 180 pistols from Thuringia on 18 April. On 20 April, 35 truck tires and 5 tires for sedans had been picked up at the Fuerstenwalde tire plant, previously DEKA.

25X1X13.

[redacted] the reconstruction and reconditioning of the castle was to be completed by 15 June 1953. An ordnance shop was being established in the basement of the front section of the castle. On 22 April, 4 large lathes, 3 meters long, a small lathe, 4 vises, 1 pillar drilling machine and 2 bench drills were available at this shop.

25X1A 1. [redacted] Comment. The symbol A is worn by all VP officer candidates on their epaullets. Oranienburg Castle houses the VP AA officer candidate school.

25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. The eastern portion of the former Oranienburg concentration camp houses a VP cadre unit which was transferred from Grossenhain to Oranienburg.

25X1A 3. [redacted] Comment. These data are unconfirmed.

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